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This publication 'Information Paper: Measures of Australia's Progress Proposed Statistical Indicators, 2013' presents the statistical indicators selected for the Measures of Australia's Progress product to be released in November 2013.

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PREFACE



The challenge for statisticians is to ensure we measure what matters. This is why the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) strives to produce statistics that are reliable, informative and provide insight into the wellbeing of the nation. Whether it be accurate information about the character of our population, the development of our national economy, the resilience of our environmental assets or the health of specific social groups, the ABS is committed to ensuring our measurements are the best possible and that what we are measuring aligns with hopes and aspirations of Australians. In this effort, we are joined by a community of statisticians around the world who are advancing the cause of the measurement of societal progress.

Measures of Australia's Progress (MAP) is at the vanguard of this activity. MAP provides a snapshot of how Australia is progressing or regressing as a nation, presenting concise and coherent information to help Australians address the question, 'Is life in Australia getting better?' A decade on from the first release of

Measuring Australia's Progress (ABS 2002), the ABS undertook a national consultation to review MAP, ensuring it remains relevant and continues to measure what matters to Australians for national progress. The ABS was guided in this process by an Expert Reference Group, to whom I would like to express my gratitude for their contribution.

This review culminated in the release of '[Measures of Australia's Progress - Aspirations for our Nation: A Conversation with Australians about Progress](#)' (hereafter referred to as 'Aspirations for our Nation'). Released in November 2012, the report articulates the nation's aspirations for societal progress. The report also presents a conceptual framework that sets out themes and elements that support these aspirations. This work has formed the foundation of the current phase of the MAP redevelopment: the construction of the new indicators which form Measures of Australia's Progress.

This Information Paper presents the results of ABS work to translate 'Aspirations for our Nation' into a statistical reality. In developing these indicators, the ABS has sought to identify indicators that represent part or all of the aspirations expressed, and inform on progress.

This Information Paper represents the collective effort of those who contributed to the initial articulation of aspirations for Australia's progress and the experts who have assisted in the latter development of a refreshed set of measures. The publication provides an account of the process the ABS has gone through to align the consultation framework with the proposed indicators as articulated in this publication. It showcases the proposed indicators the ABS will use in the MAP publication, due for release late 2013. No data or associated commentary is presented in this paper as the purpose of this publication is to highlight the indicators the ABS intends to use in the upcoming release of the refreshed MAP 2013.

MAP is an evolving product and I welcome comments and suggestions on the proposed indicators by the 12th of August. Please send any comments to the following address:

Director of Social and Progress Reporting
Australian Bureau of Statistics
Locked Bag 10
Belconnen ACT 2616
Or mail to: measuringprogress@abs.gov.au

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician
June 2013

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INTRODUCTION

This Information Paper presents the proposed progress indicators to be presented in the 2013 Measures of Australia's Progress (MAP) publication (cat no. 1370.0), to be released in November 2013. The indicators presented in this paper have been developed to measure the aspirations that emerged from the [MAP consultation process](#). Using the MAP consultation results as a conceptual basis for MAP 2013 enables the ABS to measure what Australians have told us matters most for national progress. The selection of the indicators to match these aspirations has been based on expert statistical advice to identify the best indicators that are currently available.

The paper includes:

- an overview of MAP and the recent consultation process ([Section one](#));
- an explanation of the refreshed MAP framework ([Section two](#)); and
- the proposed list of progress indicators for MAP 2013 ([Section three](#)).

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SECTION ONE: MEASURING PROGRESS

The idea of progress as societal improvement has a long history. Throughout the twentieth century, economic development was understood as a key goal for governments across the world and as a result, perhaps the most common lens through which national progress was measured. Over time, more complex measures were introduced, such as labour force measures and economic accounting, in response to social and economic disruption following the First and Second World Wars. In recent decades, there has been a growing view that understanding progress involves bringing together measures from across the areas of social, economic and environmental activity.

More recent global interest in defining and measuring progress came to a head in 2009 when the G20 Summit encouraged work on measures that appropriately take into account the social and environmental dimensions of development. During the same year the report by the [Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress](#) (Stiglitz, Sen, Fitoussi 2009) was published. The authors recommended governments and National Statistical Organisations reconsider what official statistics measured and that governments and citizens should discuss what matters most to societies, and whether these concerns are adequately addressed by official statistics.

Within Australia, there has also been a surge of interest in broader measures of progress. Many communities and regional areas are interested in assessing the holistic progress of local areas. In addition, both state and federal government departments and agencies have seen the value of producing more sophisticated

statistical profiles that reflect on social conditions, wellbeing and environmental sustainability, as well as more traditional measures of economic growth and performance.

As global and national initiatives continue to focus conversations about progress upon the consideration of broader economic, social and environmental dimensions, it is the work of official statistical organisations to ensure we measure what matters most to citizens for national progress.

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OVERVIEW OF MAP

MAP presents a broad assessment of national progress, providing holistic measures that go beyond the traditional economic measure of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). MAP is designed to help Australians address the question, 'Is life in Australia getting better?' and provides a selection of indicators to show whether progress is being made across social, economic and environmental areas of life. The ABS acknowledges that progress is multidimensional and therefore, does not seek to summarise whether Australia is, on balance, progressing or not, or at what rate. Instead, the ABS presents information in such a way that readers can consider the relative importance of progress in each dimension and bring their own personal evaluations to these questions. In this way, the ABS seeks to present complex information about all topics in an easily interpretable way, and to avoid the potential oversimplification involved in presenting a single progress indicator.

Since its first release in 2002, MAP has presented progress indicators under the three broad headings of Society, Economy and Environment. Within these areas, important aspects, such as health, work, income, and biodiversity are addressed. In 2013, the MAP structure will be expanded to reflect '[Aspirations for our Nation](#)'. Major changes include the addition of a fourth domain called 'Governance' and an expanded set of headline progress indicators to provide readers with an 'at a glance' view of Australia's progress in key areas.

Oversight, advice and broad direction for MAP has been provided by an Expert Reference Group (ERG). The group, chaired by the Australian Statistician, comprises experts who are independent and representative of

government, community, business and research sectors at a national level (see [Appendix A](#) for the ERG membership list).

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THE MAP CONSULTATION

In light of growing national and international interest in progress measurement, and a decade on from MAP's first release, the ABS has reviewed MAP to ensure it continues to measure those aspects of life that matter most to Australians. In 2011-12, the ABS, with the support of the MAP ERG, undertook a broad-ranging consultation that asked Australians 'What is important to you for national progress?'

The first phase of the redevelopment of MAP involved a public consultation in order to capture the aspirations of Australians about what matters most to them. The ABS took this approach to ensure that the role of proposing aspirations for national progress belonged to the Australian public, rather to the ABS or other government agencies. The role of the ABS was to use these aspirations as a basis for a refreshed conceptual framework for MAP and then develop measures to express these aspirations.

The feedback received from Australians was provided in the form of aspirations for national progress, such as 'good health for all'. These aspirations covered a broad range of issues that people considered important. Some of these issues were already included in MAP such as health and education while others were new or reframed aspirations such as 'a healthy built environment', 'a fair go for all Australians' and the 'opportunity to have a say in decision-making'. Participants also identified more detailed aspects of these aspirations that they felt were important for progress; for example, within the broad area of Health, 'Mental health and wellbeing' was highlighted.

The viewpoints of Australians were gained through multiple channels such as workshops, social media platforms and expert panels. Participants were drawn from many sectors including the general public, community, government, business and academia. The consultation results that emerged from this process formed the basis of the aspirational framework presented in '[Aspirations for our Nation](#)'. This document also provides a more detailed discussion of the consultation process. The refreshed MAP conceptual framework and MAP 2013 progress indicators presented in this Information Paper are underpinned by the results of the MAP consultation.

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SECTION TWO: THE REFRESHED MAP FRAMEWORK

The ABS has worked to clarify and define the central concepts of the aspirations that emerged from the consultation (see [Appendix B](#) for a list of MAP themes and aspiration statements). This process focused on ensuring conciseness, conceptual precision and clarity to ensure the results could provide a clear pathway to designing relevant measures.

The resulting MAP framework articulates the central concepts in four domains: Society, Economy, Environment and Governance. Under each of these domains sit the relevant aspirations, themes and elements that emerge from them. Figure 1 shows the domains and summarised aspirations (i.e. themes) Australians thought important for national progress.

The MAP framework serves two key purposes for the overall MAP product. It:

- identifies and clearly articulates broad areas of life that are important to Australians for national progress; and
- provides conceptual elements that point towards progress measures.



Figure 1: MAP framework domains and theme, as identified in '[Aspirations for our Nation](#)'.

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STRUCTURE OF THE FRAMEWORK

The refreshed MAP framework has been structured in the following way:

- Domains – The overarching areas of interest (i.e. Society, Economy and Environment) that have been used as an organising principle in MAP since its inception to guide and organise the consultation process (note, there will be a fourth domain of Governance in MAP 2013). Each theme, aspiration, element and progress indicator falls into one of these broad domains.
- Themes – They summarise the aspirations that Australians thought were important for national progress and will, where possible, be represented by a headline progress indicator. These headline indicators will appear on the MAP Dashboard. Within each theme, elements exist for more specific areas of progress.
- Elements – Are important areas of the aspirations that Australians wanted to see process in. They are descriptive and conceptual, pointing towards progress measures for the aspirations. Elements will be represented by a progress indicator where an appropriate measure is available.
- Contextual Information – Provided where appropriate, particularly in the case where a progress indicator is not available for either the theme or elements.

Displayed below is a diagram that describes the structure of the MAP framework. Figure 2 displays the nested relationship between domains, themes, elements and the measures as described above. A detailed description of the MAP framework structure is available in [Appendix C](#).

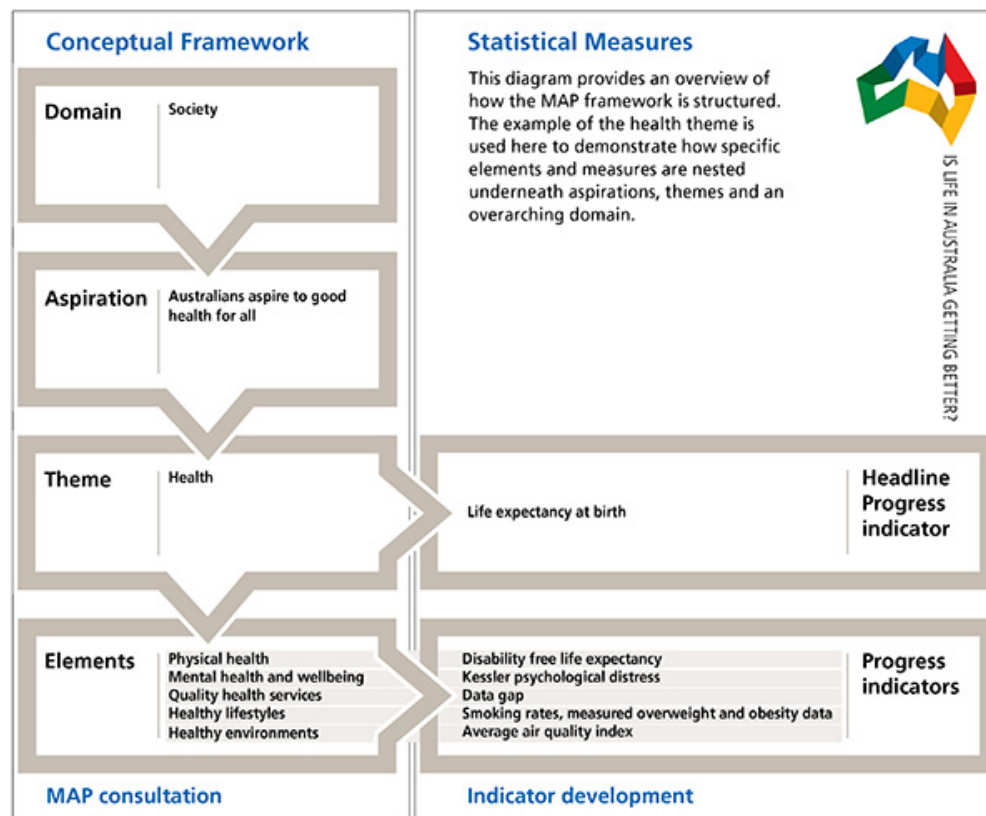


Figure 2: Structure of MAP framework.

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DEVELOPMENT OF INDICATORS

The process of transforming the MAP framework from a conceptual to statistical framework has involved collaboration between the ABS and external experts. Although MAP has had previous versions of indicators, the ABS sought to start from the ground up and consider a broad range of possibilities for indicators to best express this idea for progress in the refreshed MAP framework. Progress indicators were considered for all themes and elements of the framework, with experts from outside the ABS consulted in specific areas of expertise where appropriate. The ERG has also provided guidance for MAP.

Populating the domains

The amount of development that has been required to populate domains has differed, largely reflecting the maturity of particular areas of statistical measurement in the Australian statistical system. The Social and Economy domains are the most populated domains in the proposed indicator list, because of the well-established statistical programs for social and economic statistics in Australia. ABS experts in economic and social statistics guided most of the development for these domains. Some external consultation has also been required where other organisations are custodians of proposed indicators.

The Environment domain will be less populated with indicators than the Society and Economy domains. This is due to the acknowledged difficulty of measuring many of the important areas identified at this point in time. Experts in environment statistics within the ABS guided indicator development for the Environment domain.

Environmental statistics are a rapidly evolving field, and in Australia, a number of agencies have the remit to develop and produce indicators of environmental sustainability and health. The ABS consulted with the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC) about possible progress indicators for the environment themes and elements. The ABS also sought to take into account the recently released [Sustainable Australia Report 2013](#).

The Governance domain is the least populated domain with measures. The limitations around the availability of data and contested nature of central concepts in the field of governance result in this domain being the least developed of all in the MAP framework. Nevertheless, the consultation found that this overarching area of life was an important part of the overall picture of Australia's progress. The ABS established a Governance Working Group to guide the identification and selection of potential indicators and contextual information for the newly established domain of Governance. The Governance Working Group discussed possible indicators and provided advice around contextual information to be included in the product (see [Appendix D](#) for the Governance Working Group membership list). The group comprised ABS experts and external experts who had participated in the Governance Topic Advisory Panel as part of the MAP consultation process. The development of measures for Governance is being discussed in international statistical forums, and the ABS will utilise the outcomes of that work in the future development of this domain.

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DATA ISSUES

Data gaps

The ABS has always highlighted where there is no suitable data to measure the progress of important areas of life. These data gaps signal to government and the community areas where future development of the evidence base is required, to provide a comprehensive view of progress across all domains of importance. In 2013, there remain data gaps across all four domains.

In MAP 2013 there will be several types of data gaps:

1. data gaps where there is a clear concept, but data of sufficient quality is not available to inform on progress;
2. the element or theme is conceptually challenging or complex and development is required to identify an appropriate indicator to measure its progress; or
3. the concept is important for progress, as a feature or enabler, but may not lend itself to meaningful statistical measurement.

The final MAP product will clearly identify these data gaps.

Contextual elements

Some elements are not able to be readily represented by progress indicators. This is because these elements can currently only be described, rather than statistically measured. An example of this is 'International

conventions and laws' within the Governance domain, where it is not clear exactly what would be measured to indicate progress. Rather, the existence of international conventions and laws are important where they enable other areas of progress to occur, or restrict progress if they are not effective.

Data sources

The proposed indicators have been primarily sourced from official statistical sources. For the Social and Economic domains, the proposed indicators have primarily been drawn from ABS data collections. For the Environment domain the proposed indicators were compiled from several sources including, but not limited to, the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, Geoscience Australia, Tourism Australia and the ABS. The proposed indicators for the Governance domain have been sourced from ABS data collections, the Australian Electoral Commission and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

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INDICATOR SELECTION PRINCIPLES

The ABS has taken a flexible approach in selecting indicators for the refreshed MAP framework in order to maximise the information available for MAP 2013. This approach has been guided by a number of principles:

1. The indicator used should be the best available indicator which is relevant to the theme or element.
2. Indicators do not need to be 'all-encompassing' of the theme or element to be included. Indicators that contain a partial or indirect insight may be acceptable in those instances where it could be reasonably expect that the indicator would be representative of the overarching theme or element.
3. Indicators in MAP 2013 do not need to have an extensive time series for inclusion – this can grow over time. This is to ensure the ABS does not exclude suitable indicators because of their short time series. Though MAP aims to ensure all progress measures have a suitable time series, we have included measures where we anticipate future data points will become available.
4. Indicators should be of high or acceptable quality, with specific regard to reliability, currency, and methodology.
- 5.

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SECTION THREE: PROPOSED INDICATOR LIST FOR MAP 2013

Identifying progress indicators that best fit the aspirations represented in the refreshed MAP framework and that stay true to the MAP consultation, has been a challenging process. The ABS has sought to reconcile progress measures with the aspirations expressed by Australians. The framework encompasses many key aspects of life in Australia that reflect the aspirations Australians have for national progress.

In order to operationalise the refreshed MAP conceptual framework with a set of suitable progress indicators, the ABS has made an assessment of:

- the conceptual fit of each indicator to its particular theme or element; and
- the quality of each data source.







The application of these assessments to progress indicators of individual themes and elements shows both the basis for the indicator selection and the relationship between the refreshed MAP framework and the proposed indicators.

Section three contains the following tables:

- Table 1 – an explanation of the assessments key (see below).
- [Table 2](#) – the list of the proposed headline indicators for MAP.
- [Table 3](#) – the full list of proposed indicators for the Society domain
- [Table 4](#) – the full list of proposed indicators for the Economy domain
- [Table 5](#) – the full list of proposed indicators for the Environment domain
- [Table 6](#) – the full list of proposed indicators for the Governance domain.

Please note only indicators of high or acceptable quality have been included.

Table 1: Quality Assessment Key

Target Diagram	Type of Indicator	Description - assessment of conceptual fit
	Direct measure	An indicator that measures all of the concept reflected by the theme or element, i.e. a good conceptual 'fit' (e.g. Real net Worth for Prosperity theme - Economic Domain)
	Partial measure	An indicator that measures part of the concept reflected by the theme or element, where that part is considered significant enough to stand as an indicator for the theme or element as a whole, i.e. a partial conceptual 'fit' (e.g. Total area of vegetation cover for Land and Vegetation element - Environment Domain)
	Indirect measure	An indicator that measures the concept reflected by the theme or element, whilst being somewhat conceptually separate from the central idea of the theme or element, i.e. a proxy for the idea, rather than good a conceptual 'fit'. (e.g. Life expectancy for the Health theme - Social Domain)
Scale diagram	Quality of data source	Description - assessment of quality
	High quality	The data source rates highly in terms of reliability, currency and methodology
	Acceptable quality	The data source is acceptable in terms of reliability , currency and methodology
	Limited quality	The data source is of limited quality in terms of reliability , currency and methodology

No indicators of 'limited quality' are proposed for inclusion, as the ABS does not believe that they would be suitable measures of progress in an official statistical release. For more information about the qualities that constitute high and acceptable quality please see the [ABS Data Quality Framework](#) (cat. no 1520.0).

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Table 2: Summary list of Domains, Themes and proposed headline indicators for Measures of Australia's Progress

Conceptual Framework	Headline Progress Indicators	Indicator Ratings (See the 'Quality Assessment Key')	
		Conceptual fit	Quality
SOCIETY			
Health	Life Expectancy at birth		
Close relationships	People who have ex-household family members they can confide in (proportion)		
Home	Homelessness rate		
Safety	Victimisation rate for physical assault		
Learning and knowledge	People with a vocational or higher education qualification (proportion)		

Community connections and diversity	People who had no involvement in social and community groups (proportion)		
A fair go	Data gap		
Enriched lives	Data gap		
ECONOMY		Conceptual fit	Quality
Opportunities	Year twelve education employment rate		
Jobs	Unemployment rate		
Prosperity	Change in real net worth per capita		
A resilient economy	Labour productivity		
A sustainable economy	Purchasing power of national disposable income per capita		
Fair outcomes	Household income inequality ratio (ratio of Q4/Q1 of income)		
International economic engagement	International trade rate (total exports and imports relative to gross domestic product)		
ENVIRONMENT		Conceptual fit	Quality
Healthy natural environment	Data gap		
Appreciating the environment	Domestic trips involving nature activities, per capita		
Protecting the environment	Data gap		

Sustaining the environment	Net greenhouse gas emissions		
Healthy built environments	Proportion of capital city residents who feel that their city has a good road network and minimal traffic congestion		
Working together	Data gap		
GOVERNANCE		Conceptual fit	Quality
Trust	Level of generalised trust		
Effective governance	Data gap		
Participation	Proportion of eligible Australians enrolled to vote		
Informed public debate	Data gap		
People's rights and responsibilities	Data gap		

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Table 3: Full list of indicators for Measures of Australia's Progress, Society domain

Conceptual Framework		Progress Indicators		Indicator Ratings (See the ' Quality Assessment Key ')	
				Conceptual fit	Quality
SOCIETY					
Health		Life Expectancy at birth			
Physical health		Disability free life expectancy			
Mental health and wellbeing		Psychological distress			
Quality health services		Data gap			
Healthy lifestyles		Smoking rates and measured overweight and obesity			
Healthy environments		Average air quality index for capital cities			

Close relationships	People who have ex-household family members they can confide in (proportion)		
Positive relationships	People who feel able to have a say with family and friends on important issues all or most of the time		
Caring relationships	Future indicator: People that have a source of support in a time of crisis		
Thriving children	Children who are developmentally vulnerable because of their physical health and wellbeing		
Time and opportunity	People who feel rushed or pressed for time often or always (proportion)		
Relationship support	Data gap		
Home	Homelessness rate		
Adequate housing	Overcrowded households (proportion)		
Affordable housing	Rental affordability for low income households (proportion of rental cost to household income)		
Tenure	Home ownership rates		
Belonging	People who recognise an area as homelands/traditional country (Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander)		
Safety	Victimisation rate for physical assault		
Crime	Malicious property damage		
Safe environments	Future indicator: Social Disorder – Experience of social disorder issues as a large problem in the local area		

Safety regulations and systems	Data gap		
Refuge	Data gap		
Feelings of safety	Future indicator: Feelings of safety at home alone during the day, at home alone after dark and walking in the local area alone after dark		
Learning and knowledge	People with a vocational or higher education qualification (proportion)		
Early learning	4 and 5 year olds enrolled in a full-time preschool program in the year before schooling (proportion)		
Schooling	Attainment of Year 12 or Cert III (proportion)		
Further education	People with a vocational or higher education qualification (proportion)		
Lifelong learning	Participation in formal and non-formal learning		
Life skills	Literacy and numeracy rates		
Research	Research and development expenditure on research in higher education organisations		
Inter-generational learning	Data gap		
Community connections and diversity	People who had no involvement in social and community groups (proportion)		
Community relationships	People who had no involvement in social and community groups (proportion)		
Community support	People who have volunteered for an organisation (proportion)		
Respect for difference	People who felt discriminated against (for being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander)		
Cultural activity and participation	Data gap		

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures	Identification with a tribal clan or language group (proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples)		
Shared identity	Overseas-born residents who have been in Australia for 5 years or more and are Australian citizens (proportion)		
A fair go			
Data gap			
Meeting basic needs	Households that have low economic resources and experienced one or more financial stressors		
Services	People who find cost is a barrier to seeing a General Practitioner (proportion)		
Education, training and information	Participation rates in education and training		
Employment	Employment as a percentage of all people who want to work		
Income	Disposable household income for low income households (average real equivalised)		
Infrastructure	Perceived level of difficulty with transport		
Assistance for vulnerable people	Data gap		
Enriched lives			
Data gap			
Feelings	Data gap		
Giving	People who provide unpaid help to others (proportion)		
Time and opportunity	Average time spent on leisure activities		
Recreation and sport	Participation in sport and physical recreation at least		

once



Popular culture and the arts

Attendance at cultural venues and events



Spirituality

Data gap



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Table 4: Full list of indicators for Measures of Australia's Progress, Economy domain

Conceptual Framework	Progress Indicators	Indicator Ratings (See the ' Quality Assessment Key ')	
ECONOMY		Conceptual fit	Quality
Opportunities	Year twelve education employment rate		
Employment	Employment as a percentage of all people who want to work		
Business	New business entry rate		
Standard of living	Purchasing power of national disposable income per capita		
Capabilities	Employment rate of persons with Year twelve qualification		
Reduced complexity	Data gap		

Jobs	Unemployment rate		
Income	Percentage of jobs that are low paid		
Job satisfaction	Overall Job satisfaction		
Flexible arrangements	Proportion of workers with an agreement to work flexible hours		
Safe and healthy working conditions	Incidence rates for compensated work related injuries		
Effective industrial relations environment	Number of industrial disputes and working days lost per capita of working population		
Prosperity	Change in real net worth per capita		
Efficient workforce	Labour underutilisation		
Efficient use of resources	Multifactor productivity		
Access to resources	Data gap		
Innovation for efficiency	Data gap		
Competition	Data gap		
Effective regulation	Data gap		
A resilient economy	Labour productivity		
Flexibility	Average duration of unemployment		

				
Insurance	Data gap			
Stability	Consumer Price Index			
Prudent financial sector	Capital base ratio			
Information	Data gap			
A sustainable economy	Purchasing power of national disposable income per capita			
Buying power	Purchasing power of national disposable income per capita			
Government finances	General government net savings ratio			
Economic resources	Produced capital per capita			
Environmental resources	Data gap			
Human resources	Labour force participation rate			
Innovation for change	Product expansion by Innovative businesses			
Fair outcomes	Household income inequality ratio (ratio of Q4/Q1 of income)			
Living standards	Purchasing power of national disposable income per capita			
Equity	Household income inequality ratio			
Disadvantage	Household income inequality ratio			

			
Shared contribution and responsibility	Household income taxation rate per capita		
International economic engagement	International trade rate (total exports and imports relative to gross domestic product)		
Development and maintenance of trade relationships	Data gap		
Migration and tourism	Net overseas migration per capita		
Uphold international responsibilities and cooperation	Data gap		
Sharing of knowledge and ideas	International movements for education, business and conferences per capita		

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Table 5: Full list of indicators for Measures of Australia's Progress, Environment domain

Conceptual Framework		Progress Indicators		Indicator Ratings (See the ' Quality Assessment Key ')	
ENVIRONMENT				Conceptual fit	Quality
Healthy natural environment	Data gap				
Biodiversity	Data gap				
Land and vegetation	Total area of vegetation cover, excluding crops and pastures				
Rivers, lakes and ground water	Data gap				
Oceans and estuaries	Data gap				

Air and atmosphere	Average air quality index for capital cities		
Forests	Total area of forest cover		
Appreciating the environment	Domestic trips involving nature activities, per capita		
Understanding the environment's intrinsic value	Data gap		
Understanding the environment's economic value	Data gap		
Access to and availability of nature areas	Domestic trips involving nature activities, per capita		
Cultural connections	Data gap		
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's connection to country	Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who recognise an area as homelands/traditional country		
Quality information	Data gap		
Protecting the environment	Data gap		
Protect	Total area protected		
Prevent and minimise further damage	Proportion of native vegetation and wetlands on agricultural holdings that is being protected for conservation purposes		
Restore	Data gap		
Effective programs	Data gap		
Sustaining the environment	Net greenhouse gas emissions		

Natural resources	Natural capital per capita, volume measures		
Land use	Data gap		
Water use	Data gap		
Waste management	Waste disposed per capita		
Adaptive technology	Data gap		
Adaption strategies	Data gap		
Climate change	Net greenhouse gas emissions		
Healthy built environment	Proportion of capital city residents who feel that their city has a good road network and minimal traffic congestion		
Quality built environment	Data gap		
People friendly	Proportion of capital city residents who feel that their city has a good road network and minimal traffic congestion		
Cultural and heritage friendly	Data gap		
Access to natural areas	Data gap		
Ecologically friendly	Data gap		
Access to services and amenities	Future indicator: People with difficulty accessing services due to lack of adequate services in area or transport		
Working together	Data gap		
Participation	Data gap		

Alignment	Data gap		
Collaboration	Data gap		
Shared responsibility	Data gap		
International	Australian Aid targeted towards the environment		

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Table 6: Full list of indicators for Measures of Australia's Progress, Governance domain

Conceptual Framework	Progress Indicators	Indicator Ratings (See the ' Quality Assessment Key ')	
		Conceptual fit	Quality
GOVERNANCE			
Trust	Level of generalised trust		
Integrity	Data gap		
Transparency	Data gap		
Accountability	Data gap		
Trust in governance processes and systems	Informal votes in Australian federal elections		
Effective governance	Data gap		

Effective governance	Data gap		
Ease of interactions	Future indicator: Whether people had problems accessing services		
Protection	Data gap		
Seamless services	Data gap		
Balance between regulation and freedom	Data gap		
Resilience	Data gap		
Participation	Proportion of eligible Australians enrolled to vote		
Involvement in decision making	Voter turnout for federal elections		
Awareness and understanding	Data gap		
Access and opportunity	Active participation in civic and political groups		
Taking responsibility	Overseas-born residents who have been in Australia for 5 years or more and are Australian citizens (proportion)		
Informed public debate	Data gap		
Open and informed debate	Data gap		
Freedom to pursue and access truth/facts	Data gap		
A free media	Data gap		

Effective regulation	Data gap	
People's rights and responsibilities	Data gap	
Rights and responsibilities upheld	Data gap	
National laws and standards	Data gap	
Access to justice	Time on remand	 
Freedom of expression	Feels able to have a say within community on important issues	 
International conventions and laws	Data gap	

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CONCLUSION

The next phase

The ABS will use the indicator list, the principles articulated in this Information Paper and feedback we receive, to undertake the work to release the Measure of Australia's Progress 2013 product in November 2013. This process will involve sourcing data, developing analysis and writing explanatory text about the assessments of national progress.

This Information Paper will be the only exposure for the proposed indicators (see figure 3), prior to their publication in November 2013. This release outlines the principles used to establish which indicators have been included in this proposed list, and explains the different gaps in the list as a result of either conceptual challenges or lack of available quality data. The Information Paper invites feedback from members of the public on the proposed indicators and outlines the next steps for MAP, leading to the publication of new data in November 2013.

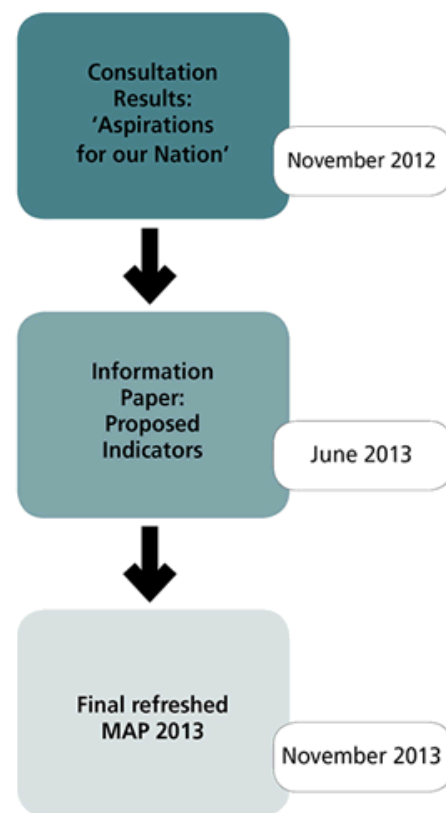


Figure 3: The MAP refresh timeline.

Feedback, comments and suggestions

This Information Paper provides the opportunity to view and engage how the ABS has interpreted '[Aspirations for our Nation](#)' and sought to develop the refreshed MAP framework and bring it to life with statistical measures. As the framework draws on the aspirations for national progress as articulated by the Australian public, it is fitting that the ABS articulates how the proposed indicators align with the aspirations expressed in framework.

The ABS hopes this Information Paper will contribute to the thinking and activity surrounding the important but challenging area of measuring the progress of society. It is an area that is being pursued by statisticians as pressure for change increases. With this in mind, the ABS will continue to reflect on the proposed indicators and may make changes in the future.

MAP is an evolving product and we welcome comments and suggestions on the indicators proposed in this Information Paper by the 12th of August.

Please send any comments to the following address:

Director of Social and Progress Reporting
Australian Bureau of Statistics
Locked Bag 10
Belconnen ACT 2616
Or measuringprogress@abs.gov.au

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The Appendices of this paper include:

- Appendix A - [MAP Expert Reference Group membership list](#)
- Appendix B - [MAP Themes and aspiration statements](#)
- Appendix C - [Detailed explanation of MAP framework](#)
- Appendix D - [Governance Working Group membership list](#)

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APPENDIX A - MAP EXPERT REFERENCE GROUP MEMBERSHIP LIST

Brian Pink	Australian Statistician (Chair)
Bill Allen	Branch Head, Economic and Environment Statistics Group, ABS
David Borthwick	Ex Secretary, Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
John Daley	Chief Executive Officer, Grattan Institute
Richard Eckersley	Independent Researcher; Director, Australia21 Ltd.
Dominic English	Executive Director, Strategy and Delivery Division, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
Jenny Gordon	Principal Adviser Research, Productivity Commission
David Hedley	Senior Adviser, Economic Conditions & Outlook, Economic Policy Branch, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
Tshibanda Gracia Ngoy	ERG Youth Representative, 2011 Young People's Human Rights Medallist and Welcome to Australia Ambassador
Rob Raether	Principal Adviser of Industry, Environment and Defence Division, The Treasury
Mike Salvaris	Adjunct Professor, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
Rob Ward	Strategy Council member of the Global Foundation

APPENDIX B - MAP THEMES AND ASPIRATION STATEMENTS

SOCIETY

Health

Australians aspire to good health for all.

Close relationships

Australians aspire to a society that nurtures families and other close relationships that support people.

Home

Australians aspire to have secure places to live that provide a sense of belonging and home, and are adequate to their needs.

Safety

Australians aspire to a society where people are safe and feel safe.

Learning and knowledge

Australians aspire to a society that values and enables learning.

Community connections and diversity

Australians aspire to support each other and embrace diversity.

A fair go

Australians aspire to a fair society that enables everyone to meet their needs.

Enriched lives

Australians aspire to value all aspects of life that are important to people and enrich their lives.



ECONOMY

Opportunities

Australians aspire to have the economic opportunities they need to thrive.

Jobs

Australians aspire to an economy that provides them with quality jobs.

Prosperity

Australians aspire to a prosperous and efficient economy.

A resilient economy

Australians aspire to an economy in which people can manage risk and be resilient to shocks.

A sustainable economy

Australians aspire to an economy that sustains or enhances living standards into the future.

Fair outcomes

Australians aspire to an economy that supports fair outcomes.

International economic engagement

Australians aspire to fruitful economic engagement with the rest of the world.



ENVIRONMENT

Healthy natural environment

Australians aspire to a healthy natural environment.

Appreciating the environment

Australians aspire to appreciate the natural environment and people's connection with it.

Protecting the environment

Australians aspire to care for and protect our natural environment.

Sustaining the environment

Australians aspire to manage the environment sustainably for future generations.

Healthy built environments

Australians aspire to healthy built environments.

Working together

Australians aspire for government, business and communities to work together locally and globally for a healthy environment.



GOVERNANCE

Trust

Australians aspire to institutions and processes they can trust and hold to account

Effective governance

Australians aspire to governance that works well.

Participation

Australians aspire to have the opportunity to have a say in decisions that affect their lives.

Informed public debate

Australians aspire to well-informed and vibrant public debate.

Peoples' rights and responsibilities

Australians aspire to a society where everyone's rights are upheld and their responsibilities fulfilled.



APPENDIX C - DETAILED EXPLANATION OF MAP FRAMEWORK

Domains

- The overarching Society, Economy, Environment, and Governance areas of interest that have been used as an organising principle in MAP since its inception to guide and organise the consultation process. Each theme, aspiration, element and progress indicator falls into one of these four broad domains.

Aspirations and Themes

- Within each of the four domains is a list of aspiration statements and themes.
- The aspirations capture the main or headline ideas that Australians thought mattered most for societal progress.
- Each theme summarises the main idea contained in the aspiration attached to it.
- The theme acts as a short hand for the aspiration.
- The full list of aspiration statements and themes are located in Appendix B.

Elements

- Within each theme are elements related to that theme and aspiration.
- The MAP consultation identified elements as the most important areas to be considered when thinking about each aspiration and theme.
- Elements are descriptive and conceptual, in that they point towards progress measures for the aspirations.
- Some elements will be represented by a progress indicator, while others are contextual only.

Progress Indicator and contextual information

- Against many elements, a progress indicator is identified. Progress indicators are summary measures that reflect a central idea for the element. They are also especially chosen because they can (or will) be able to demonstrate clear positive or negative movement over time. That is, when the data points are plotted on a graph showing change over time, readers can see the aspect of life is moving clearly in a 'good' or 'desired' direction (signalling progress), clearly in a 'bad' or 'undesirable' direction (signalling regress) or there is no significant movement.
- Progress indicators are chosen on the basis that most Australians would agree that the change they show can be unambiguously associated with progress or regress.
- Contextual information provides important background to the summarised information at higher levels in the product.

APPENDIX D - GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP LIST

Natasha Cica	University of Tasmania
Crispin Hull	Canberra Times
Meredith Edwards	University of Canberra

Please note: A number of ABS subject matter experts also participated in the governance working group meetings.

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